



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
980 Ninth Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA. 95814-2724
September 19, 2002

IN REPLY REFER TO
HDA-CA
File # 04-SF/ALA-80
Document # P 41921

Mr. Randell H. Iwasaki, Acting District Director
California Department of Transportation
District 4
P.O. Box 23660
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

Attention: Brian Maroney

Dear Mr. Iwasaki

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR BUY AMERICA WAIVER, PPWS-STRAND

Your July 30, 2002 letter follow-up on the request for a Buy America Waiver to use prefabricated-parallel wire strand (PPWS-Strand) in the construction of the San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge, East Span Seismic Safety Project (SFOBB, ESSSP). We have worked closely with your staff and we appreciated the special efforts that were done to provide this office with additional information on a timely manner.

In August 15, 2002 you submitted a follow-up waiver request for PPWS-strand indicating that North American Wire Products Company (NAWP) has filled for chapter 11, and was subsequently purchased by Leggett and Platt of Missouri.

On September 17, 2002 you provided notification of additional sample results for cable wires produced by NAWP. The results of the test showed that the latest products did not meet the specification for the SFOBB project.

The NAWP has been given an ample time (from August 2001 till September 2002) to demonstrate the capability to produce the PPWS-strand in sufficient and reasonably available quantities that would satisfy the project need. The contract schedule shows that the PS&E for the Self-Anchored Suspension (SAS) Superstructure need to be completed by December 2002 for advertisement. We have considered your request and we can no longer delay this important

safety project. Accordingly, the Buy America Waiver request for the PPWS-strand for the SFOBB project is approved.

If you have any questions please contact Bill Wong or Nancy Bobb at (916) 498-5042/5033.

Sincerely,

/s/ G. P. Bill Wong

For

Gary N. Hamby

Division Administrator

E-mail: (All FHWA)

Edwin Okonkwo

Tom Sorel

Paul Nishimoto

David Nicol

Roland Nimis

Myint Lwin

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Nancy Bobb

Bill Wong

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
980 Ninth Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA. 95814-2724
December 7, 2001

IN REPLY REFER TO
HDA-CA
File #: 04-SF-80
Document #: P37889

Mr. Randell H. Iwasaki, Acting District Director
California Department of Transportation
District 4
P.O. Box 23660
Oakland, CA. 94623-0660

Attention: Brian Maroney

Dear Mr. Iwasaki:

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF BUY AMERICA WAIVER FOR THE SFOBB EAST SPAN

Enclosed for your use are the approvals of Buy America Waiver for the 75 mm high-strength steel bars, S-Wire and the Saddle that were requested for the San Francisco – Oakland Bay Bridge (SFOBB), East Span Seismic Safety Project. However, we are unable to provide waiver approval of the PPWS-strands as requested. It is our understanding that the North America Wire Products Company may be able to manufacture the PPWS-strands locally as specified in the contract. We will be working closely with your staff to ensure waiver approval if North America Wire Products Company proves to be incapable of producing such required strands.

If you have any questions please contact Bill Wong at (916) 498-5042 or Nancy Bobb at (916) 498-5033.

Sincerely,

/s/ Maiser Khaled

For
Michael G. Ritchie
Division Administrator

Enclosure

cc: (w/Enclosure)
Rachel Falsetti, Caltrans Headquarters, Structures

cc: (w/o Enclosure)
Steve Hulsebus, Caltrans District 04